

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 097548 TOSEC 040068

NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS) PFOR

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S EVENING READING FOR
SATURDAY, APRIL 15:

1. POSSIBLE PRISONER EXCHANGE. THE EAST GERMAN LAWYER VOGEL HAS PROPOSED TO CONGRESSMAN GILMAN (D-NY) THAT ROBERT THOMPSON, AN AMERICAN CONVICTED OF SPYING FOR EAST GERMANY, BE TURNED OVER TO THE EAST IN EXCHANGE FOR ALAN VAN NORMAN, AN AMERICAN STUDENT IMPRISONED IN EAST GERMANY ON CHARGES OF HELPING EAST GERMANS TO ESCAPE TO THE WEST, AND MIRON MARCUS, AN ISRAELI PILOT SHOT DOWN LAST YEAR OVER MOZAMBIQUE. WE INTEND TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE EXCHANGE SUGGESTED BY VOGEL. GILMAN IS SENDING A LETTER TO VOGEL EXPRESSING OPTIMISM ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR AN EXCHANGE AND AGREEING TO MEET HIM IN WASHINGTON APRIL 26.

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NEWSWEEK HAS THE ESSENTIAL DETAILS AND WILL PROBABLY RUN THE STORY ON MONDAY.

2. VISA FOR TIME CORRESPONDENT. CY HAS INSTRUCTED MAC TOON TO DELIVER A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO GROMYKO ASKING THAT THE DECISION TO REFUSE A VISA TO TIME CORRESPONDENT STROBE TALBOTT BE REVERSED TO ALLOW HIM ACCOMPANY CY ON HIS MOSCOW

TRIP. THE MESSAGE TELLS GROMYKO THAT DENIAL OF THE VISA WILL HURT THE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE TALKS. WE TOLD DOBRYNIN OF THE MESSAGE TODAY AND HE SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT IT. DOBRYNIN ADDED THAT HIS REPORT OF OUR EARLIER SUPPORT FOR TALBOTT HAD ELICITED A SECOND REFUSAL, WHICH HE RECEIVED BY CABLE TODAY WITHOUT ANY ELABORATION.

3. SHEVCHENKO CASE. AT DOBRYNIN'S REQUEST WE HAVE ARRANGED ANOTHER MEETING BETWEEN SHEVCHENKO (THE DISAFFECTED SOVIET UN OFFICIAL) AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE UN TROYANOVSKIY. THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN NEW YORK SUNDAY EVENING IN THE OFFICE OF ERNEST GROSS, SHEVCHENKO'S ATTORNEY, WHO WILL ALSO BE PRESENT. A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICER WILL BE ON THE PREMISES AND AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE IF NEEDED. SHEVCHENKO WILL PROBABLY PRESS FOR AN ANSWER TO HIS REQUEST FOR GOOD TREATMENT OF HIS FAMILY IN THE USSR; TROYANOVSKIY WILL PROBABLY TRY TO TALK HIM INTO GOING HOME.

4. MIDDLE EAST. THE EGYPTIANS HAVE WELCOMED OUR PROPOSAL THAT ROY ATHERTON VISIT EGYPT. BOTH VICE PRESIDENT MUBARAK AND FOREIGN MINISTER KAMEL ASSURED EILTS THAT THE EGYPTIANS WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS BOTH THE WEST BANK/GAZA QUESTION AND THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. A MEETING WITH SADAT HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 23, FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH
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KAMEL. IF CY DOES NOT RETURN TO AFRICA AT THE END OF THE MONTH, DAYAN HAS PROPOSED COMING HERE THE LAST WEEK OF APRIL. IN THAT EVENT, IT MAY PROVE DESIRABLE FOR ATHERTON TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON FROM CAIRO RATHER THAN GOING ON TO ISRAEL.

5. UNIFIL. WHILE OTHER FORCES ARE MOVING INTO PLACE ON SCHEDULE, WE ARE DISTURBED THAT BOLIVIA AND MEXICO DECIDED NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN UNIFIL AND THAT WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY OTHER LATIN NATIONS THAT WOULD BE WILLING, AND ABLE, TO CONTRIBUTE FORCES. THE ABSENCE OF LATIN AMERICAN UNITS IN THIS PEACEKEEPING EFFORT IS IN CONTRAST TO THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, THE CONGO, CYPRUS AND ELSEWHERE. THE REASONS FOR THE FAILURE OF MEXICO AND BOLIVIA TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THEIR INITIAL DECISIONS TO SUPPLY TROOPS TO UNIFIL WERE APPARENTLY LARGELY DOMESTIC. SINCE CONTINUED LATIN SUPPORT FOR PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS IS IMPORTANT TO US, WE WILL BE EXPRESSING OUR STRONG INTEREST TO LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS.

6. PANAMA. TELEGRAMS WENT OUT THIS AFTERNOON TO OUR AMBASSADORS IN COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, AND COSTA RICA

ASKING THEM TO SEEK THE HELP OF THE CHIEFS OF STATE
OF THOSE COUNTRIES TO PERSUADE GENERAL TORRIJOS TO
LOOK AT THE SENATE LEADERSHIP'S NEW NON-INTERVENTION
LANGUAGE WITH AN OPEN MIND AND FAVORABLY. THAT
LANGUAGE IS AS FOLLOWS: PURSUANT TO ITS ADHERENCE TO
THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION, ANY ACTION TAKEN BY
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE EXERCISE OF ITS
RIGHTS TO ASSURE THAT THE PANAMA CANAL SHALL REMAIN
OPEN, NEUTRAL, AND SECURE, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS
OF THIS TREATY AND THE NEUTRALITY TREATY AND THE
RESOLUTIONS OF RATIFICATION THERETO, SHALL BE ONLY
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSURING THAT THE CANAL SHALL REMAIN
OPEN, SECURE, AND ACCESSIBLE TO THE SHIPS OF ALL NATIONS,
AND SHALL NOT HAVE AS ITS PURPOSE INTERFERENCE IN THE
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INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, OR
INFRINGEMENT OF ITS INDEPENDENCE OR ITS SOVEREIGNTY.

FOR OUR AMBASSADORS' GUIDANCE, WE NOTED THE FOLLOWING
POINTS OF SIGNIFICANCE IN THE ABOVE PROVISION: FIRST,
THE OPENING PHRASE IS A STRONG AFFIRMATION OF THE PRIN-
CIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION. SECOND, THIS LANGUAGE SPANS
BOTH TREATIES AND ALL RESERVATIONS, CONDITIONS, AND
UNDERSTANDINGS. THIRD, THE TEXT LIMITS U.S. ACTION
TO THE AFFIRMATIVE PURPOSES OF ASSURING THAT THE CANAL
REMAINS OPEN, SECURE AND ACCESSIBLE. FOURTH, THE TEXT
EXPLICITLY DENIES THAT ANY ACTION WE MIGHT TAKE UNDER
THE TREATIES WOULD HAVE AS ITS PURPOSE THE INFRINGEMENT
OF THE SOVEREIGNTY, OR INDEPENDENCE OF PANAMA. FINALLY,
ALTHOUGH PART OF THE PANAMANIAN CONCERN SEEMS TO BE THE
OMISSION OF A REFERENCE TO TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, A
STRONG ARGUMENT CAN BE MADE IN A LATIN CONTEXT THAT
SOVEREIGNTY IS A STRONGER AND MORE EMBRACING CONCEPT.
CHRISTOPHER

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